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Message Text

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70
ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ITF-05 INSE-00 SSO-00

SS-15 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 VO-03 SCA-01 NSCE-00 NSC-05

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DRAFTED BY EA/LC:BSKIRKPATRICK:DTM
APPROVED BY IATF:LDBROWN
IATF:AFANTIPPAS
EA/LC:LMRIVES
INS:GEN.CHAPMAN
S/S-O:MTANNER
---------- 024454
P R 142340Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112981

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS:SREF, CB

SUBJECT:INDOCHINA REFUGEES - CAMBODIAN DIPLOMATS - URUGUAY

REFS: A. STATE 107899 (NOTAL); B. STATE 96573 (NOTAL); C. MONTEVIDEO 1568 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT UNHCR CONCERNING ASSISTANCE FOR RESETTLEMENT OF FORMER CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR TO URUGUAY, ONG KHUY TRENG AND FAMILY (NINE PERSONS).

2. AMBASSADOR ONG HAS BEEN DEFERRING APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PENDING CLARIFICATION OF THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA BUT HAS NO HESITATION IN ASKING US FOR RESETTLEMENT HERE (REF A). HE IS NOW WILLING TO ACCEPT DEPARTMENT'S OFFER (REF B) TO CONTACT UNHCR ON BEHALF HIM
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AND STAFF (REF C). HE IS INSISTENT THAT CONTACT BE MADE

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AT USG INITIATIVE AS HE REMAINS AFRAID THAT CLEAR BREAK WITH PHNOM PENH WOULD NOT ONLY JEOPARDIZE ANY HOPE OF HIS SERVING A COALITION GOVERNMENT (WHICH HE NOW SEES MOST UNLIKELY) BUT ALSO, AND MORE IMPORTANT, COULD LEAD TO KILLING OF HIS PARENTS AND SIBLINGS STILL IN CAMBODIA (ALSO REF C).

3. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS HIS CONCERN THAT COMMUNICATION TO UNHCR REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR RESETTLEMENT COULD LEAD

TO KILLING OF HIS PARENTS AND SIBLINGS IN CAMBODIA. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THIS PROBLEM AND NOTED THAT APPARENTLY FEW OTHER VIETNAMESE OR CAMBODIAN DIPLOMATS HAVE EXPRESSED THE SAME CONCERN. IN VIEW OF THE CONFUSED SITUATION IN CAMBODIA, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT AN APPEAL TO THE UNHCR WOULD IN FACT FIND ITS WAY BACK TO THE FAMILIES CONCERNED.

4. SINCE EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IS APPROACHING ICEM WITH OTHER TWO CAMBODIAN DIPLOMATS, THIS REQUEST PERTAINS TO AMBASSADOR ONG ONLY. KISSINGER

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